



LED Street Lights Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why is the city installing LED street lights throughout the city?

The decision to upgrade the city's street light fixtures using the more-efficient LED technology is part of the city's Sustainability Initiative. The city is trying to reduce its energy usage throughout the city, while at the same time improving the quality of light in neighborhoods. This upgrade has been ongoing for about a year, and the city hopes to have all lights upgraded by the end of 2012.

2. What are the advantages of LED Lights?

Studies show that LED technology offers greater levels of "color rendering" than the older technology. This allows viewers to identify pedestrians and other objects more clearly with much lower levels of light, allowing them to respond in a much quicker manner when making life-or-death decisions.

Another reason these lights were chosen is because they can now more effectively be "aimed" to light the roadway. Roadway lighting always has been intended to illuminate the sidewalk and roadway areas, and this technology allows the city to accomplish this more efficiently. By directing the light to areas more effectively with LEDs, the city can prevent lighting other areas, such as back yards, side yards, etc.

In addition, the city has chosen LED lamps that generate less glare to the human eye, which will enhance safety of pedestrians and drivers in our community.

These LED lights also achieve greater energy efficiency as the city serves the community's roadway lighting needs. The energy savings will save taxpayer money. Also, the city significantly reduces the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that enter our atmosphere by using LED lights. In addition to the long-term energy saving, these LEDs last significantly longer (100,000 hours) than the older technology (20,000 hours). This helps reduce the need for ongoing maintenance over the life of the street light, which also saves taxpayer dollars.